IN THE CLAIMS

 (Previously presented) 	A method	for use	in a	a communications	endpoint,	the
method comprising the steps of:						

determining a signature of a communications channel, wherein the signature of the communications channel is a second order statistic of a signal-to-noise ratio of a signal received from the communications channel;

performing power control over the communications channel wherein the power control compares a metric value and a target metric value, such that the target metric value is adjusted as a function of the determined signature of the communications channel.

- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the metric is a bit error rate (BER).
- 1 3. (Canceled)
 - 4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the determining step includes the steps of:
 - collecting signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) values of the signal received from the communications channel; and
 - calculating the second order statistic of the collected SNR values.
- 1 5. (Canceled)
 - 6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the communications endpoint is a wireless endpoint.
 - 7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the metric is a symbol error count.
 - 8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the determining step includes the step of monitoring the symbol error count of the received signal for determining a standard deviation of the received symbol error count; and the performing step includes the step of adjusting a target symbol error count for the received signal as a function of the standard deviation for use in providing the power control.

l	9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the determining step
2	includes the steps of:
3	monitoring a symbol error count of the received signal for determining a standard
4	deviation of a received symbol error count;
5	setting a target symbol error rate as a function of the standard deviation; and
6	wherein the performing step includes the step of
7	adjusting a target signal-to-noise ratio for the received signal depending on the
8	difference between the set target symbol error rate and the actual symbol error count
9	produced by the receiver.
1	10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the performing power control step
2	performs symbol error count based reverse outer loop power control with adaptive
3	symbol error rate targets.
1	11. (Previously presented) A method for use in a communications endpoint, the
2	method comprising the steps of:
3	receiving a signal from a wireless endpoint;
4	developing a second order statistic from the received signal based on a signal-to-
5	noise ratio of the received signal; and
6	performing power control with the wireless endpoint as a function of the second
7	order statistic.
1	12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the developing step
2	further comprises:
3	adjusting a bit error rate target value as a function of the second order
4	statistic;
5	and the performing step includes the step of performing reverse-link outer loop
6	power control as a function of a comparison between a bit error rate value of the
7	received signal and the adjusted bit error rate target value.
1	13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the communications endpoint is a
2	wireless endpoint.

- 1 14. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the power control is a symbol error count based power control.
 - 15. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the developing step includes the step of monitoring a symbol error count of the received signal for determining a standard deviation of the received symbol error count; and the performing step includes the step of adjusting a target symbol error count for the received signal as a function of the standard deviation for use in providing the power control.
 - 16. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the developing step includes the steps of:

monitoring a symbol error count of the received signal for determining a standard deviation of the received symbol error count;

setting a target symbol error rate as a function of the standard deviation; and the performing step includes the step of adjusting a target signal-to-noise ratio for the received signal depending on the difference between the set target symbol error rate and the actual symbol error count produced by the receiver.

17. (Previously presented) A method for use in a communications endpoint, the method comprising the steps of:

measuring a signature of a fading environment, wherein the measuring includes calculating a standard deviation value of a signal-to-noise ratio of a received signal; and performing power control by adjusting a target metric value as a function of the measured signature.

18. (Canceled)

- 19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the performing step uses the standard deviation value of the signal-to-noise ratio to adjust the target metric value.
- 20. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the metric value is a bit error rate (BER).

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- 21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the performing step adds a value to a signal-to-noise ratio target value, wherein the added value is selected as a function of the measured signature of the fading environment.
 - 22. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the performing step includes the steps of:
- estimating a bit error rate (BER);
- 4 comparing the estimated BER to a target BER value; and
 - adjusting a target signal-to-noise ratio value as a result of the comparison by adding a value to the target signal-to-noise ratio;
 - wherein the value added to the target signal-to-noise-ratio is selected as a function of the measured signature.
- 23. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the communications endpoint is a wireless endpoint.
 - 24. (Previously presented) An apparatus for use in a communication endpoint, the apparatus comprising:
 - a receiver for receiving a signal;
 - a controller for (a) developing a signature of a communications channel from the received signal, wherein the controller further determines the signature of the communications channel by collecting signal-to-noise ratio values of the received signal and by calculating a second order statistic of the collected signal-to-noise ratio values; and (b) performing power control over the communications channel by adjusting a target metric value as a function of the signature of the communications channel.
 - 25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 further comprising a decoder for decoding the received signal and wherein the metric is a bit error rate (BER) of the decoded received signal.
- 1 26. (Canceled)
- 1 27. (Canceled)

- 28. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 24 further comprising a memory for storing a look-up table which maps values of the second order statistic to adjustment values for use in adjusting the target metric value.
 - 29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the metric value is signal-to-noise (SNR).
 - 30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the target metric value is a target signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) and the controller adjusts the SNR target value by adding a value to the SNR target value, wherein the added value is selected as a function of the developed signature.
 - 31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the communications endpoint is a wireless endpoint.
 - 32. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the metric is a symbol error count.
 - 33. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the controller monitors a symbol error count of the received signal for determining a standard deviation of the received symbol error count; and adjusts a target symbol error count for the received signal as a function of the standard deviation for use in providing the power control.
 - 34. (Original) An apparatus for use in a communications endpoint, the apparatus comprising:
 - a decoder for decoding a frame of a received signal and for providing a signal representative of log-likelihood ratios with respect to information bits of the decoded frame;
 - a bit error estimate generator responsive to the signal representative of the loglikelihood ratios for providing a bit error rate estimate; and
 - a processor for performing reverse outer loop power control (ROLPC) over a communications channel wherein the ROLPC performs a comparison between the bit error rate estimate and a target bit error rate value such that the target bit error rate

value is adjusted as a function of a signature of the communications channel.

- 35. (Original) The apparatus of claim 34 wherein the processor further determines the signature of the communications channel by calculating a second order statistic of a received signal-to-noise ratio (SNR).
- 36. (Original) The apparatus of claim 35 further comprising a memory for storing a look-up table which maps values of the second order statistic to adjustment values for use in adjusting the target bit error rate value.
 - 37. (Original) The apparatus of claim 34 wherein the communications endpoint is a wireless endpoint.
 - 38. (Previously presented) Apparatus for use in equipment for providing power control in a cellular system, the apparatus comprising:
 - a receiver for receiving a signal from a wireless endpoint;
 - a controller for (a) developing a second order statistic from the received signal, wherein the controller calculates the second order statistic of collected signal-to-noise ratio values of the received signal, and wherein said second order statistic is used to determine an adjustment to a target metric value; and (b) performing power control with the wireless endpoint as a function of the second order statistic.
 - 39. (Canceled)
 - 40. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein the metric value is a bit error rate (BER).
 - 41. (Original) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein the power control is a symbol error count based power control.
 - 42. (Original) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein the controller monitors a symbol error count of the received signal for determining a standard deviation of the received symbol error count; and adjusts a target symbol error count for the received signal as a function of the standard deviation for use in providing the power control.

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1 43. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 38 further comprising a 2 transmitter for transmitting power control information to a mobile station.